



# NEWS RELEASE

**Arizona House of Representatives**

**Representative Kevin Payne (R-21)**

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007-2844

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**Friday, February 15, 2019**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Representative Kevin Payne Introduces Legislation to Increase Corrections Officers Salaries**

**STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX** – Representative Kevin Payne (R-21), chair of the House Public Safety Committee, has introduced [HB 2680](#), which would increase salaries for Arizona Department of Corrections officers.

HB 2680 would appropriate \$35 million from the state general fund in fiscal year 2020 to the Arizona Department of Corrections for officer salary increases, as well as \$3.2 million to increase the salaries of juvenile corrections officers. 94% of the total funds would be dedicated to security personnel with the remaining 4% covering administrative costs.

**“It’s time we finally support these officers who put their lives on the line each day to keep our correctional facilities safe and secure,”** said Representative Payne. **“The starting salary of a Department of Corrections officer is \$32,916, which is the lowest of all our neighboring states. Low pay hurts retention of officers and places the safety of our facilities at risk.”**

The legislation is consistent with both Governor Ducey’s executive budget proposal for fiscal year 2020 and the House Republicans’ 2019 Majority Plan.

HB 2680 will be considered in the House Appropriations Committee next week.

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**CONTACT:**

Matthew Specht  
Director of Communications  
House Republican Caucus  
602-926-5518  
[mspecht@azleg.gov](mailto:mspecht@azleg.gov)